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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/583,739	06/20/2006	Satoshi Ito	2006_0987A	8611

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EXAMINER

ABBASZADEH, JAWEED A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2115

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/09/2010

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/583,739	Applicant(s) ITO ET AL.	
	Examiner JAWEED A. ABBASZADEH	Art Unit 2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/2/2010</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Powers et al. (hereinafter 'Powers') US 7,424,632 in view of Kilian US 7,574,525.

Powers was cited as the prior art reference in the previous office action. His relevant teachings are hereby incorporated by reference.

As to claim 1, Power teaches all the claimed limitations except the newly amended limitations.

Kilian is cited to teach a similar device that is involved in network communication. Kilian further teaches an alive packet transmitting unit operable to transmit an alive packet periodically at a predetermined time, the alive packet ["packet"] indicating that the communication device is in a state of being able to provide the service ["status (running, stopped, etc)] and including at least address information ["include other information such as access point, port address"] of the communication device [col. 4, lines 6-9, 38-45, and 54-55]. Kilian also teaches the device that receives the alive packet [col. 4, lines 41-45—"message server"]. It is interpreted that the status indicated

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by the packet specifies the status of the services since the message server is able to notify the status of all of the services performed after receiving the status packets. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have combined the teachings of Powers and Kilian because they are both directed towards network communication. Kilian improves upon Powers by informing network connected elements if and how communication can occur. By providing status information, it can be determined if communication can occur. This can prevent unnecessary communication. Providing address information is essential to notifying network elements where to direct communications. Therefore, this would be an obvious improvement since Powers relies on other network elements requesting address information.

As to claims 2-10 and 12, Powers teaches these claims according to the reasoning set forth in the previous office action.

As to claims 13-14, Powers and Kilian teach these claims according to the reasoning set forth in claim 1 *supra*.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 and 12-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. The amended limitations state, "transmit an alive packet periodically at a predetermined time." The claims filed 6/20/2006 that were considered in the

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previous office action do not mention this. Specifically, claim 11 only mentions that a connection is made to the network every predetermined time. No mention is made towards transmitting the alive packet "periodically at a predetermined time." Even if it is interpreted that when the alive packet transmitting unit connects to the network every predetermined time, the alive packet is transmitted, there is still no mention of the predetermined time being periodic. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAWEED A. ABBASZADEH whose telephone number is (571)270-1640. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m..

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jaweed A Abbaszadeh/
Examiner, Art Unit 2115
6/4/2010

/Thomas Lee/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2115